



BOROUGH OF CONGLETON.

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# REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH OF CONGLETON

*For the Year 1938,*

BY

HENRY P. HARPUR,

B.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., M.D.,

University of Dublin (T.C.D.).

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J. T. Dishley, Printer, Congleton.

***Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.***

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**(a) Medical.**

***Temporary Medical Officer of Health and Temporary School Medical Officer.***—Henry P. Harpur, B.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., M.D., University of Dublin (T.C.D.)

***School Dental Officer.***—J. H. Maywhort, L.D.S., R.F.P.S., Glasgow; is a part-time officer.

***School Ear, Nose, and Throat Surgeon.***—E. H. Richards, M.B., B.S., University London, F.R.C.S. Edinburgh; is a part-time officer; is also Hon. Ear, Nose, and Throat Surgeon, North Staffs. Royal Infirmary.

***School Oculist.***—T. Aubrey Jones, B.Sc., London University, B.A., Cambridge University, M.R.C.S., England, L.R.C.P., London, D.O., Oxford University; is a part-time officer; is also Hon. Ophthalmic Surgeon, Haywood and Tunstall Hospital, Congleton War Memorial Hospital and Assistant Hon. Surgeon, North Staffs. Royal Infirmary.

***Surgeon in Charge of Orthopaedic Clinic.***—W. Mitchell Smith, M.D., C.M., Aberdeen University; is a part-time officer; is also Hon. Surgeon, North Staffs Orthopaedic Hospital and Surgical Tuberculosis Officer, City of Stoke-on-Trent.

***Medical Superintendent of West Heath Sanatorium*** (the Borough of Congleton being one of the five authorities constituting the Joint Hospital Board).—J. P. Lowe, M.A., Oxford University, M.B., Ch.B., Victoria University; is a part-time officer.

***Medical Officer, Arclid Smallpox Hospital*** (the Borough of Congleton being one of the authorities constituting the Joint Hospital Board).—A. Bennett, L.R.C.P. London, M.R.C.S. England; part-time officer; is also Medical Officer of Health for the Rural District of Congleton.

**(b) Others.**

***The Borough Surveyor.***—Mr. J. Hood, A.I.S.E., A.I.A.S., who is also Sewage and Water Engineer.

**Sanitary Inspector.**—Mr. W. J. Eversett, who also carries out the duties under the Milk and Dairies Acts and Order, Factory and Workshop Act, Rag Flock Act, Housing Acts and Regulations, Canal Boats Acts, and Food and Meat Inspection. Holds the Nuisance Inspector's and Meat Inspector's Certificates of the Royal Sanitary Institute, and is a full time officer; a contribution to his salary is received under the Local Government Act, 1933.

**Additional Sanitary Inspector.**—Mr. H. Street, who carries out duties in connection with the Housing Acts. Holds the certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and the Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Examination Board as a Sanitary Inspector, and is a full time officer; a contribution to his salary is received under the Local Government Act, 1933.

**The Chief Constable.**—Mr. Robert W. James is Inspector of Common Lodging Houses, and undertakes the duties under the Food and Drugs Acts, and Merchandise Marks Act. He is a whole time officer.

**Veterinary Inspector.**—Mr. A. J. Wright, M.R.C.V.S., is a part-time officer; he is also Veterinary Inspector for the Borough of Macclesfield.

**Borough Analyst.**—Mr. S. E. Melling, F.I.C., F.C.S., is a part-time officer; is also the County Analyst.

**School Nurse.**—Mrs. M. Wells is a whole time officer.

**Clerk in Public Health Department.**—Mr. Eric Holden.

The following Medical Officials are employed by the Cheshire County Council within the Borough of Congleton:—

**District Tuberculosis Officer** under the County Tuberculosis Scheme:—L. I. Henzell, M.D., B.S., Univ. London, B.Sc., D.P.H., M.R.C.S., Eng., L.R.C.P., London; is a whole time officer paid by the Cheshire County Council, Congleton being only part of his district.

**Poor Law Medical Out-Relief, District Medical Officer.**—A. J. Pirie, M.B., Ch.B., Univ. Aberdeen, is a part-time officer, is also Police Surgeon for the Borough of Congleton and Medical Referee Ministry of Pensions.

**Public Vaccinator.**—W. I. Fern, J.P., L.R.C.P. and L.M., Ireland, L.R.C.S., Edinburgh.

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## Medical Officer of Health

*For the Year ended 31st December, 1938.*

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*To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors of the Borough of Congleton.*

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Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Report on the Health of the Borough of Congleton for the year 1938. I have acted as temporary Medical Officer of Health for the Borough since May 16th, 1938, and in this report is embodied the previous interim report of Dr. R. B. Davidson, J.P., from the beginning of the year up to that date.

During the months of July, August, September and October, a widespread epidemic of Measles prevailed. This entirely subsided in the month of November. The disease was of a mild form but very infectious. St. Stephen's Infants' School was closed from July 8th till July 25th, and all Schools did not re-open until September 13th.

### SECTION A.

#### *Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.*

Area (in acres) ...	...	...	...	...	5,565
Population (1938, estimated by the Registrar General)					14,940
Population (Census 1931)	...	...	...	...	12,885
Number of inhabited houses (1938)	...	...	...	...	4,526
Number of inhabited houses (1921)	...	...	...	...	2,810
Rateable Value...	...	...	...	...	£68,432
Product of a penny rate ...	...	...	...	...	£245 2s. 5d.

The chief occupations of the inhabitants are:—Silk Spinning, Towel Weaving, Bleaching and Dyeing, Calico Printing, Agriculture, Velvet Cutting and the manufacture of Artificial Silk, Cigars, Skirts, Shirts, Blouses, Hosiery, Smallware, Jacquard Cards and Paper Bags. Most of these occupations are healthy. Unfortunately these trades mainly employ female labour, and a certain portion of the employed males have had to find their work outside the Borough.

### *Unemployment.*

The figures of Unemployment are as follows:—

On December 19th, 1938—

	Wholly Unemployed.	Temporarily Suspended.
Men ...	765	245
Women ...	197	212
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	962	457
Total ...	1419	

Unemployment during week ended December 31st, 1938—

Men ...	1452
Women ...	823
Boys ...	36
Girls ...	26
	<hr/>
Total ...	2337

### *Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.*

	Total	Male	Female	
Live Births { Legitimate ... 210	101	109		Live Birth Rate (1938) per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 14.7
{ Illegitimate ... 5	2	3		
Stillbirths { Legitimate ... 10	5	5		Stillbirth Rate (1938) per 1,000 total (live and still births) 45.
{ Illegitimate ... 1	1	0		Stillbirth Rate (1938) per 1,000 total population .66
Deaths ...	216	103	113	Crude Death Rate (1938) 14.4

Comparability Factor 1.01.

## Deaths from Puerperal causes :—

Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	0
Other Puerperal causes	...	...	...	...	0
Total	...	...	...	...	0

## Causes of Death :—

Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	7
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	1
Influenza	...	...	...	...	6
Cancer	...	...	...	...	27
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	17
Cerebral Thrombosis	...	...	...	...	2
Arterio Sclerosis	...	...	...	...	12
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	46
Anæmia	...	...	...	...	2
Menorrhagia	...	...	...	...	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	7
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	7
Asthma	...	...	...	...	1
Rheumatism	...	...	...	...	1
Cretinism	...	...	...	...	1
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	4
Duodenal Ulcer	...	...	...	...	2
Strangulated Femoral Hernia	...	...	...	...	1
Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	7
Old Age	...	...	...	...	18
Accident	...	...	...	...	13
Suicide	...	...	...	...	2
Cephalitis	...	...	...	...	1
Respiratory Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	8
Tuberculosis (other forms)	...	...	...	...	2
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	1
Enlarged Prostate	...	...	...	...	2
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	1

Peritonitis	...	..	...	...	I
Senile Gangrene	...	...	...	...	2
Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	I
Diseases of Liver and Gall Bladder			...	...	2
Other defined causes	...	...	...	...	9
Total	...	...	...	...	216

There were 17 inquests held, in 14 of which the cause of death is included above.

**The Transferable Deaths** (included above) from outside the area were as follows:—

Total	Males	Females
43	25	18

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:—

Total	Males	Females
9	6	3

All legitimate.

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:—

All Infants per 1000 Live Births 42.8.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (up to 2 years)	...	...	none
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	none
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)...		...	none

*SECTION B.**General Provision of Health Services for the Area.**Laboratory Facilities:—*

Sputum from suspected cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis is examined at the County Laboratory, Chester.

The u/m specimens of sputum received from persons resident within the Borough were received there during the year 1938, with the results shown:—

Positive	Negative	Total
8	52	60

Bacteriological examinations are made at the Manchester University Public Health Laboratory, of specimens from patients suspected of suffering from Diphtheria, Typhoid Fever and Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis, and the necessary outfits can be obtained from me. Satisfactory use has been made of these facilities during 1938.

*Bacteriological Reports, 1938.*

Suspected Disease.		Number of Specimens Examined.	Positive Results.
Diphtheria	...	77	7
Typhoid Fever	...	0	0
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	...	5	0
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	60	8

Samples of water and sewage are examined by Mr. S. E. Melling, F.I.C., F.C.S., County and Borough Analyst, who also makes chemical examinations of food when required.

**Ambulance facilities:—**

(a) The Fever Hospital has a modern Motor Ambulance, one compartment of which is for the patient and nurse, and the other is a zinc lined compartment for removing infected fomites.

The Smallpox Hospital has a horse drawn vehicle.

(b) There is a most comfortable motor ambulance belonging to the Corporation, in charge of the Borough Police, for non-infectious and accident cases.

**Professional Nursing in the Home:—**

(a) **General.**—The Congleton District Nurse Society is supported entirely by voluntary contributions, and there is no financial arrangement or scheme of co-ordination between it and the Local Authority. The Society employs a fully trained district nurse, and also an untrained nurse who obtained hospital experience during the late war.

The Buglawton District Nurse, who is a certified midwife, is supported by voluntary contributions and by the County Nursing Association, to whom the County Council is a large subscriber. The Nurse visits cases of general non-infectious illness in addition to maternity cases.

**Midwives.**—There were 6 Midwives practising in the Borough, but 2 of these resided outside the town. During last year, the County Council appointed 3 of these midwives to be whole time Municipal Maternity Nurses, the others were the Buglawton and Astbury District Nurses and one independent midwife residing just outside the Borough boundary. There were also 4 certified midwives at the Congleton War Memorial Hospital, where maternity cases are admitted to the private wards.

(b) **For Infectious Diseases.**—There is no provision for the home nursing of infectious cases.

*Clinics and Treatment Centres.*

Type of Centre	Name & Situation	Accommodation	Provided by
Tuberculosis ...	Chapel Street Dispensary, Congleton (Friday mornings)	Out Patients	Cheshire County Council
Child Welfare ...	12, West Street, Congleton (Monday afternoons)	Out Patients	Cheshire County Council
Maternity (Ante-natal) ...	12, West Street, Congleton (2nd & 4th Thurs., in each month at 2-30 p.m.)	Out Patients	Cheshire County Council
Day Nurseries ...	None		
School Clinics:—  (a) Minor Ailments	Park Street, Congleton (Mon., Wed., Thurs. and Fri., 9-30 a.m. to 12-30.)	Out Patients	Congleton Borough Education Committee
(b) Eye	(4 or 5 times a year)		
(c) Dental	Tues., Wed., Thurs., Friday mornings, and alternate Wed. afternoons.		
(d) Orthopaedic	12, West Street, Congleton Tuesdays & Fridays 9-30 a.m.		
Venereal Diseases ...	Hospitals at Manchester and Stoke-on-Trent	In and Out Patients	Cheshire County Council

The Minor Ailments School Clinic in Park Street is open on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 9-30 a.m. to 12-30 p.m. The School Nurse is present on each of these mornings, the Medical Officer also attending on Fridays. During 1938, 802 children attended for 1,213 defects, a total of 3,061 attendances being made.

The School Dental Clinic in Park Street is held every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday morning, and also on alternate

Wednesday afternoons. During 1938, 1,842 children were examined and 1,278 were treated. Attendances made by children for treatment were 2,226. There were 432 extractions and 457 fillings, and 14 general anæsthetics were administered at the War Memorial Hospital.

The Eye Clinic is held by the School Oculist when there are sufficient cases to warrant it, about 4 times a year. During the year he examined 62 children.

The School Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon comes down periodically and operates at the War Memorial Hospital, when his services are required; the children's own doctor administering the anæsthetic.

The Orthopædic Clinic is held at 12, West Street, in conjunction with the County Council. 41 Congleton children were treated at the clinic for crippling defects, apart from cases of Tuberculosis, the total number of attendances being 607.

The Congleton Borough Education Committee appointed more than a year ago a part-time male and female Physical Training organiser, and their work tends to relieve the Orthopædic Clinic of the treatment of some of the postural defects.

#### *Hospitals :—*

Congleton depends mainly for General, Maternity, Ophthalmic, and Children's Hospitals on voluntary institutions, such as Congleton War Memorial Hospital, Macclesfield General Infirmary, the North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary and Hospitals in Manchester.

There is now an X-Ray Department at the Congleton War Memorial Hospital in charge of a Consulting Radiologist, who attends each Thursday morning; there is also an out-patient Clinic for eye cases held on the second Monday in each month by a Consulting Ophthalmic Surgeon. The War Memorial Hospital admits both medical and surgical cases to its public wards, which contain 16 beds, with two more in observation wards; there are also 4 private wards, where medical, surgical, and maternity cases are treated. The hospitals available proved ample for the needs of the inhabitants of the Borough during 1938.

**Fever.**—West Heath Sanatorium, situated within the Borough, is supported by the Town Council as one of the five Authorities constituting the Congleton and District Joint Hospital Board.

The hospital serves a population, which at the last census was 45,269.

There are 50 beds and 4 cots, 28 of the beds and 2 of the cots being reserved for Scarlet Fever, 12 beds and 2 cots for Diphtheria, 8 beds Typhoid Fever and 2 beds for Puerperal Septicæmia. Cases of Cerebro Spinal Meningitis, Encephalitis Lethargica, Erysipelas and Pneumonia are also admitted.

During 1938, the following cases were admitted from Congleton:—

Scarlet Fever	... 20	(of which 1 case also contracted Diphtheria).
Diphtheria ...	... 10	
Measles ...	... 6	
Cerbro Spinal Meningitis	1	

**Smallpox.**—There is ample accommodation at this Hospital, supported by the Town Council in the same way as the Fever Hospital. It is situated at Arclid,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles from the Borough boundary. There are 10 beds, 5 for each sex. Fortunately no use had to be made of this hospital during the year.

**Maternity.**—In exceptional cases the County Council provide accommodation. Puerperal Fever and suitable cases of Puerperal Pyrexia are admitted to West Heath Sanatorium. The County Council have made arrangements with a number of consultants, who are available in cases of difficult labour, Puerperal Fever or Pyrexia, the fee however will be recoverable in part or in whole if the circumstances of the patient permit. The County Council also provide for bacteriological examination of lochia, and also nursing facilities in suitable cases. Maternity cases are admitted to the County Institution Infirmary, at Arclid, by the orders of the Public Assistance officials.

*Adoptive Acts, Byelaws, and Local Regulations relating to the Public Health, in force in the Borough, with date of adoption :—*

- Congleton Inclosure Act, 1795.
- Buglawton Enclosure Act, 1813.
- Borough of Congleton (West Road) Housing Confirmation Order, 1920.
- Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890.
- Congleton Gas and Improvement Act, 1866.
- Parts II, III, and Section 95, comprised in Part X of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907 (adopted 20th January, 1914). } In so far as they are not repealed by the Public Health Act,
- Public Health Act Amendments Act, 1890 (adopted 4th February, 1891). }
- Public Health Act, 1925, parts 2, 3, 4, excepting Sections 21, 22, and 44 (adopted April 1st, 1926). }
- Public Health Act, 1925, Sections 21, 22, and 44, and Part V (adopted by order of Ministry of Health on April 26th, 1926). } 1936.
- Congleton and District Joint Hospital Order, 1904.
- Congleton Order of 1904, being a provisional order for altering the Congleton Gas and Improvement Act, 1866.
- Congleton Inclosure Act Amendment Act, 1849.
- Congleton Gas (Temporary Increase of Charges) Order 1919.
- Borough of Taunton, etc. (Measles and German Measles) Regulations, 1920
- Byelaws with regard to New Streets and Building, 1926.
- Byelaws with regard to Slaughterhouses, Cleansing of Pavements, Nuisances, Hackney Carriages, and Common Lodging Houses, 1889.
- Byelaws with regard to Pleasure Grounds, 1890.
- Isolation Hospital Acts, 1893 and 1901 (in 1924, the County Council made an Order applying the provisions of these Acts to Encephalitis Lethargica).
- Byelaws with regard to posts, wires, tubes, and other apparatus stretched or placed over, along or across any street, 1924.
- Byelaws made under the Advertisement Regulation Acts, 1907 and 1925, made 26th July, 1929.

Congleton Electricity Order, 27th November, 1929.

Byelaws with respect to Houses intended or used for occupation by the working classes and let in lodgings, or occupied by members of more than one family, made 30th December, 1931.

Congleton (Canal Street Areas) Housing Confirmation Order, 1933 (7th October, 1933).

Byelaws as to Petroleum Filling Stations made under Section 11 of the Petroleum (Consolidation) Act, 1928 (21st September, 1933).

Congleton Borough (Broadhurst's Yard) Housing Confirmation Order, 1934.

Congleton Borough (The Rocks) Housing Confirmation Order, 1934.

Congleton (Canal Street No. 4) Housing Confirmation Order, 1935.

Congleton (Cole Hill Bank) Housing Confirmation Order, 1935.

Congleton (Kelsall Street No. 1) Housing Confirmation Order, 1935.

Congleton (Kelsall Street No. 2) Housing Confirmation Order, 1935.

Congleton (Off Dane Street) Housing Confirmation Order, 1935.

Congleton (Primrose Vale No. 1) Housing Confirmation Order, 1935.

Congleton (Primrose Vale No. 2) Housing Confirmation Order, 1935.

Congleton (Dane Street) Housing Confirmation Order, 1935.

Congleton (Boundary Lane) Housing Confirmation Order, 1935.

Congleton (Mill Lane, Dane-in-Shaw) Housing Confirmation Order, 1935.

Congleton (Reades Lane) Housing Confirmation Order, 1935.

Congleton (Borough Road) Housing Confirmation Order, 1935.

Byelaws relating to School Attendance, made under Part IV of the Education Act, 1921, made 16th September, 1935.

Congleton (Priesty Fields) Housing Confirmation Order, 1936.

Congleton (St. Helen's Square No. 1) Housing Confirmation Order, 1936.

Congleton (Victoria Street No. 1) Housing Confirmation Order, 1936.

Congleton (Princess Street No. 1) Housing Confirmation Order, 1936.

Congleton (Princess Street No. 2) Housing Confirmation Order, 1936.

Congleton (Mill Green No. 1) Housing Confirmation Order, 1936.

Congleton (Mill Green No. 2) Housing Confirmation Order, 1936.

Congleton (Canal Street No. 5) Housing Confirmation Order, 1936.

Congleton (Canal Street No. 6) Housing Confirmation Order, 1936.

Congleton (Canal Street No. 7) Housing Confirmation Order, 1936.

Byelaws under the Children and Young Persons Act, 1933, for the purpose of regulating the employment of children in the Borough, made 27th April, 1936.

Congleton (Blake Street No. 1) Housing Confirmation Order, 1937.

Congleton (John Street No. 1) Housing Confirmation Order, 1937.

Congleton (Milk Street No. 1) Housing Confirmation Order, 1937.

Congleton (Milk Street No. 2) Housing Confirmation Order, 1937.

Congleton (Mill Green No. 3) Housing Confirmation Order, 1937.

Congleton (Mill Lane, Dane-in-Shaw No. 2) Housing Confirmation Order, 1937.

Congleton (Boundary Lane No. 3) Housing Confirmation Order, 1937.

Congleton (Bromley Road No. 1) Housing Confirmation Order, 1937.

Congleton (St. Helen's Square No. 2) Housing Confirmation Order, 1937.

Congleton (Canal Street No. 8) Housing Confirmation Order, 1937.

Congleton (Barlow Street) Housing Confirmation Order, 1937.

Congleton (Wagg Street No. 1) Housing Confirmation Order, 1937.

Congleton (Spindle Street No. 1) Housing Confirmation Order, 1937.

Congleton (Princess Street No. 3) Housing Confirmation Order, 1937.

Congleton (Brunswick Street No. 1) Housing Confirmation Order, 1937.

Congleton (Queen Street, Buglawton No. 1) Housing Confirmation Order, 1937.

Congleton (King Street, Buglawton No. 1) Housing Confirmation Order, 1937.

Local Government and Other Officers' Superannuation Act, 1922, adopted 20th December, 1937, to come into force on 1st April, 1938.

There have been no causes of sickness or invalidity which have been specially noteworthy in the area during the year, except the epidemic of measles, nor has there been any conditions of occupation or environment which appear to have had a prejudicial effect on health, nor any evidence statistical or otherwise that unemployment has exercised any significant influence on the health or physique of children or adults.

*SECTION C.**Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.*

**Water.**—During the year much attention has been given to the question of augmenting the present water supply to meet increased demands in the Borough, and the Council's Experts, after much deliberation with the Ministry of Health, have received instructions to fully explore the possibilities of obtaining satisfactory increased yields of supply from the present Forge and College Grounds, instead of proceeding immediately with the sinking of a bore-hole at Bosley.

In the meantime, considerable anxiety arises from time to time, owing to the diminution in the present yield in drought periods, together with excessive consumption of water for garden and such like purposes.

The supplies from Forge continue to be chlorinated purely as a precautionary measure, and the Buglawton Bore Hole supply is being treated for correcting the plumbo-solvency action of the raw water by the addition of Soda Ash.

The following samples were forwarded to the County Analyst for his examination during the year:—

High Level Supply	4
Low Level Supply	4
Corda Well Supply	4
Buglawton Old Supply	4
Buglawton Bore-hole Supply	4

and all samples were found to be of sound bacteriological condition and of a satisfactory organic purity.

The booster plant has been installed and put into operation in Waggs Road, and this area has now a satisfactory and uniform increased pressure for all purposes.

To meet Housing Developments on the Bromley Farm Estate, Water Mains have been laid and a new booster plant put into operation to give an efficient pressure and supply to approximately 250 Corporation new houses in this area.

Small Water Main Extensions to meet building developments have been carried out during the year.

**Drainage and Sewerage.**—The general system of Drainage and Sewerage has been satisfactorily maintained during the year. Some overflows are regularly inspected and cleansed, and generally there has been very little or no complaint in this direction.

The Disposal Works continues to deal with increased daily flows due to increased trade effluents and general building expansion, particularly on Corporation Housing Estates, as well as the continued conversion of Pail Closets to W.C's.

The scheme to deal with the Drainage and Sewerage Disposal of the West Heath Area, in addition to the Astbury Village on behalf of the Congleton Rural District Council is being prepared by the Council's Consulting Engineers, and this matter is now being dealt with as expeditiously as possible.

Extensions to existing Main Sewers have been carried out during the year to meet the demands of general building and housing estate development :—

Bromley Farm Estate (218 houses)

Bull's Lane, Buglawton

Buxton Road

Hill Street

**Rivers and Streams.**—This is under the control of the Rivers Pollution Committee of the Cheshire County Council, whose Inspectors, after visiting the Sewage Disposal Works periodically and taking samples of the final Effluent before it enters the River Dane, are satisfied that no pollution is taking place, and conditions generally are being satisfactorily maintained.

**Open-Air Swimming Bath.**—The Park Road Open-Air Swimming Bath and Paddling Pool were opened to the public on May 7th and

officially closed on the 19th September, during which period 21,024 bathers (including School-children and Season Ticket holders) and 3,798 Spectators passed through the turn-stiles, being an increase on last year's figures.

Samples of the Bath Water taken from time to time showed, on analysis, a perfectly safe and sterile water being maintained.

The Bath Water is now heated by a direct steam heating plant installed at the beginning of the season. This has been greatly appreciated by the bathers, in addition to having its effect on the box office.

**Public Cleansing.**—There has been no deviation from the existing practice in the method of Public Cleansing, Collection and Disposal of House Refuse. Arrangements are made to collect and dispose of Trade Refuse, Butchers Offals and diseased meat.

In the Buglawton Area, the pails and house refuse are collected weekly and deposited on Tips in the outlying area.

During the year 2803 tons of refuse have been collected and disposed of at the Sewage Works Tip, which is apart from the Buglawton area, where there are no weighing facilities, and the quantity is a slight decrease on the previous year's total.

The rat pest on the Refuse Tip is being dealt with constantly, with satisfactory results, and the number of rats destroyed during the period under review is 322.

Borough Surveyor's Department,

Town Hall, Congleton,

13th May, 1938.

*From the REPORT of DR. R. B. DAVIDSON, J.P.*

***Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.***

**Water.**—The supply of water both to the High Level and Low Level areas in addition to the added area of Buglawton has been satisfactorily maintained, but owing to the drought period which has been practically continuous from February up to the present time, the yield from the Springs at the Forge Works has diminished very considerably, and the yield from this source is barely equal to the demand. It has been necessary from time to time to issue Warning Notices to all consumers restricting the use of water to domestic purposes only.

The Council is proceeding with the augmentation scheme, and application has now been made to the Ministry of Health for sanction to bore at Rushton Spencer, and it is hoped to obtain from this source an additional half-million gallons daily supply. Samples of the Town's Water Supply from all sources for analysis, and the reports attached hereto, will show that very satisfactory results have been obtained.

With regard to the No. 4 samples taken from the Buglawton Old supply on the 26th January, 1938, and the Public Analyst's remarks in regard to the bacteriological examination of this sample, it was found that an overflow from a small surface tank was connected to this supply and this, after receiving the report, was immediately cut off. You will observe from a further sample taken from this supply on the 8th March, 1938, that the County Analyst's report of the 11th March affirms that this supply is now satisfactory.

During the past three months further extensions of the water mains in the Bromley Road area have been carried out to supply the large housing development in this area.

With regard to the two polluted wells at Holly Bush Farm, Congleton Edge Road, which were reported to the Council in 1937, the Council decided to apply to the Court of Summary Jurisdiction for an order to close these wells. Application was made and the case was heard on March 17th, 1938, when the Justices decided to make an order to have the wells effectually closed.

**Rivers and Streams** — This is under the control of the Rivers Pollution Committee of the Cheshire County Council, whose Inspectors periodically visit the Sewage Disposal Works, and there are not complaints regarding the final effluent entering the river from the Disposal Works.

**Public Cleansing.**—With regard to the collection and disposal of House refuse, there is no alteration in the particulars or data given in the report for the year ended 31st December, 1937. This is also applicable to the Pail Closets and House refuse collected and disposed of from the Buglawton area and all outlying districts. From the 1st January to the 11th May, 1938, 1,104 tons of house refuse have been removed to the Tip and this figure does not include the Buglawton area, where there is no means of weighing. Constant attention on the Refuse Tips is given to the destruction of rats, and during the period under review 142 rats were destroyed, and constant attention is given to keep the Tips in a satisfactory state, which keeps the department free from complaints.

**Sewers and Sewage Disposal.**—The general system of sewerage and the operation and maintenance of the Sewage Disposal Works is satisfactorily maintained. Every attention is given to the storm overflows on the main sewers and the low parts of the Borough are inspected and cleansed regularly so as to prevent any nuisance arising or pollution of the river taking place.

Sewer extensions to meet the demands of private building and municipal estate development have been carried out during the past three months as follows :—

Bromley Farm Estate (154 Houses)  
Bulls Lane, Buglawton

**Astbury Marsh and West Heath Area.**—The Council has now appointed an expert to deal with the question of the sewerage of the whole of this area and representations are at the present time being made to the Congleton Rural District Council with a view to the expert reporting upon and preparing a joint sewerage disposal scheme for the West Heath area and Astbury Village, which is in the Congleton Rural District Area.

**Open-Air Swimming Baths.**—During the past three months, after receiving the sanction of the Ministry of Health, the Council has now installed a system of heating the Open-Air Swimming Baths in Park Road. The method of heating is by steam generated from the existing boilers at the Gas Works and connected directly into the filtration plant at the Baths. It is intended to maintain a temperature of 72 degrees F. in the Bath water, and with this added facility the scheme which was put into operation on the 5th instant, the Bathing Season will be considerably extended, with added pleasure to the patrons, and it is hoped the finances of the Baths Department.

(COPY)

MELLING &amp; ARDERN,

The Cliff,

Higher Broughton,

Manchester 7,

31st January, 1938.

J. Hood, Esqre.,  
 Surveyor,  
 Town Hall,  
 Congleton.

Dear Sir,

We beg to report as follows the results of bacteriological examination of six samples of water, taken and submitted by you on the 26th and 28th instant :—

- (1) High Level supply taken from Moss Inn, Canal Road, a.m., 26,1,38.
- (2) Low Level supply taken at Borough Surveyor's Office, a.m., 26,1,38.
- (3) Corda Well taken at house in Moss Road, a.m., 26,1,38.
- (4) Buglawton Old supply, taken from Spring Bank, 11-45 a.m., 28,1,38.
- (5) Buglawton bore-hole supply taken at Tall Ash Farm, a.m., 26,1,38.
- (6) Forge supply taken at entrance to sumps in College ground, a.m., 26,1,38.

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Number of organisms developing on Agar-agar in 3 days at 20°C. ...	-	-	-	10	-	-
—do.— in 24 hrs. at 37°C. ...	0	0	0	1	0	0

***B.Coli (presumptive).***

**Nos. (1), (2), (3), (5), (6).** absent in 1.0, 5.0, 10.0 and 3 portions of 20.0 cubic centimetres, i.e., 76.0 cubic centimetres.

**No. (4).** absent in 1.0, 5.0, 10.0 and two portions of 20.0 cubic centimetres.  
**present in** a third volume of 20.0 cubic centimetres.

***Opinion.***

**Nos. (1), (2), (3), (5) & (6)** are perfectly satisfactory and wholesome waters.

**(No. 4).**

We should prefer to regard this as a border-line case, and so ensure that not the slightest doubt exists as to the entirely reliable quality of the supply.

We are,

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) MELLING &amp; ARDERN.

(COPY)

MELLING &amp; ARDERN,

The Cliff,

Higher Broughton,

Manchester 7,

11th March, 1938.

J. Hood, Esqre.,  
 Surveyor,  
 Town Hall,  
 Congleton.

Dear Sir,

We have to report as follows the results of the bacteriological examination of the sample of Water submitted by you on the 8th instant :—

***Description of sample.***

Sample of water from Old Buglawton Supply, Mrs. Poole, taken at 9 a.m, 8.3.38.

***Bacteriological examination.***

Developing of agar-agar—					Number of organisms per cubic centimetre.
At 20°C.	...	...	...	...	10
At 37°C.	...	...	...	...	0

***B.Coli (presumptive test).***

Absent in 1.0., 5.0, 10.0 and 3 volumes of 20.0 cubic centimetres,  
 i.e., 76.0 c.cs. in all.

***Opinion.***

In its present state, the water is of sound bacteriological condition and of wholesome potable quality.

The doubt expressed in the sample taken from the same source now disappears in view of the above results.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) MELLING &amp; ARDERN.

(COPY)

MELLING &amp; ARDERN,

The Cliff,

Higher Broughton,

Manchester 7,

12th April, 1938.

J. Hood, Esqre.,  
 Borough Surveyor & Water Engineer,  
 Town Hall,  
 Congleton.

Dear Sir,

We have to submit the following report on the four samples of Water taken by you on the 6th inst., and received here on the same day :—

**Description of Samples.**

- No. 1.** Sample of Buglawton Borehole Supply (Tall Ash Avenue), taken at 10-30 a.m., 6,4,38.  
 A clear and colourless water, free from odour and deposit. pH., ... 6.2
- No. 2.** Sample of Buglawton Old Supply, taken at 10-30 a.m., 6,4,38.  
 A clear and colourless water, free from odour and deposit. pH., ... 7.2
- No. 3.** Sample of Congleton High Level Supply (taken from Dr. Greeve's house), taken at 10-30 a.m., 6,4,38.  
 A clear and colourless water, free from odour and deposit. pH., ... 7.2
- No. 4.** Sample of Corda Well Supply (taken from A. Booth's house, Moss Road), taken at 10-30 a.m., 6,4,38.  
 A clear and colourless water, free from odour and deposit. pH., ... 6.8
- No. 5.** Sample of Low Level Supply (from the "Quinta"), taken at 10-30 a.m., 6,4,38.  
 A clear water with faint yellowish-brown cast, free from odour and deposit. pH., ... 7.1

**Analytical Returns.***expressed in parts per 100,000.*

	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.	No. 4.	No. 5.
Total solids in solution	...	...	8.8	16.0	33.2
Non-volatile (mineral) solids	...	...	7.5	14.0	29.0
Loss on ignition	...	...	1.3	2.0	4.2
Total hardness	...	...	3.0	11.0	21.0
Temporary do	...	...	2.0	6.6	12.4
Permanent do	...	...	1.0	4.4	8.6
Combined Chlorine	...	...	1.4	1.5	2.2
Heavy (toxic) metals	...	...	nil	nil	nil
Ammoniacal nitrogen	...	...	nil	nil	nil
Albuminoid nitrogen	...	...	nil	nil	0.002
Nitrous nitrogen (nitrites)	...	...	nil	nil	0.001
Nitric nitrogen (nitrates)	...	...	0.20	0.24	0.50
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hours at 26.7°C		nil	0.012	0.018	0.012
					0.02

**Bacteriological Examination.**

NUMBER OF ORGANISMS PER CUBIC CENTIMETRE.

Developing on agar-agar media—

At 20°C.	...	...	...	5	12	2	7	0
At 37°C.	...	...	...	0	0	0	0	0

**Excretal B.Coli** ... ... ... absent in each case in the following volumes tested :—

1.0, 5.0, 10.0 and 3 portions of 20.0 cubic centimetres, i.e., 76 cubic centimetres in all.

**Opinion.**

- No. 1.** A water of low salinity and hardness and of an exceptionally high degree of organic purity. The entirely satisfactory results of the bacteriological examination confirm the wholesome and potable quality of the supply. It may be noted that the reaction (pH. 6.2) is slightly on the acid side of neutrality.
- No. 2.** Both on chemical and bacteriological grounds, the supply is found to be of wholesome and potable quality.
- No. 3.** A moderately hard water of satisfactory organic purity and sound bacteriological condition. There is no doubt as to its potable quality.
- No. 4.** A 'soft' water of very high organic purity and of sound bacteriological condition. This supply is eminently suitable for dietetic and general domestic use.
- No. 5.** A relatively hard water of satisfactory organic purity and of wholesome and potable quality. This sample is sterile.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) MELLING & ARDERN.

***Closet Accommodation :—***

Number of each type of closet on December 31st, 1938 :—

Water Closets ...	4969, an increase of 324
Slop Closets ...	11
Pail Closets ...	546, a decrease of 251
Privy Middens ...	67, in outlying districts

***Conversions of Closets :—***

Pails to Water Closets ...	81
Slop Closets to Water Closets ...	0
Privies to Water Closets ...	0
Privies to Pail Closets ...	0

***Sanitary Inspection of the Area.***—Details will be found in the tabular statement furnished by the senior Sanitary Inspector, from which it will be seen that the Sanitary Inspectors made 4,073 inspections, issued 625 informal notices, 614 of which were complied with during the year; 730 inspections of Common Lodging Houses were also made by the Borough Police.

***Shops and Offices.***—No action was taken during the year relating to ventilation, temperature and sanitary conveniences.

***Camping Sites.***—There are no camping sites in the Borough.

***Smoke Abatement.***—Only 1 case of nuisance from smoke was reported; informal notice was served on the occupier of the factory and the nuisance was abated.

***Schools.***—In September, 1938, the reorganisation programme in connection with the public elementary schools was completed. The senior mixed department of the Congleton Council school was adapted to accommodate the Girls over 11 years of age in the Borough and a big improvement made in the educational facilities provided.

In the same month the Congleton Senior Boys' Council school became the Senior school for the Boys over 11 years of age in the Borough. Here again there is a big improvement in the educational facilities provided.

The drainage of all the schools is connected to the public sewer and each school is supplied with the Town's water.

There is still urgent need for the provision of suitable school playing fields.

### *School Closures during 1938.*

School	Period	Reason
St. Stephen's Infants	July 8th—July 25th, 1938	Measles
All Schools	August 29th—Sept. 13th, 1938	Measles

### *Eradication of Bed Bugs:—*

- (1) The number of Council houses found to be infected was None.
- (2) The number of other houses found to be infested was 70.  
All were disinfested.
- (2) The methods employed for freeing infested houses are those described in previous reports. The fumigant and insecticide used are "Cimex" and "Zaldecide" respectively.
- (3) The method employed for ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removing to Council houses is still the "Cimex" process as explained in previous reports.
- (4) The work of disinfestation is still carried out by a contractor (Cimex Ltd.,) with the aid of Corporation employees and under the observation of a member of the Health Department
- (5) The measures taken by way of supervision or education of tenants to prevent infestation or re-infestation after cleansing are those described in previous reports.

**SECTION D.*****Housing.***

Number of New Houses erected during the year :—

(a) By Private Enterprise	...	...	33
(b) By Local Authority	...	...	218

***Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year.*****1.—Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year:**

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	1261
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose...					2577
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925...					90
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose...					594
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...		54
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...				429

**2.—Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices :—**

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ...	...	...	143
---	-----	-----	-----

**3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—****A.—Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16, of the Housing Act, 1936 :**

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	...	...	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—			
(a) By owners ...	...	...	0
(b) By local authority in default of owners...			0

## B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | o |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—        |   |
| (a) By owners ... ... ...  | o |
| (b) By local authority in default of owners  | o |

## C.—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- |   |    |
|---|----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ... | 10 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ...    | 2  |

## D.—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...  | 2 |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... | o |

*Part IV Housing Act, 1936.**Overcrowding.—*

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| (a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year   | 109 |
| (ii) Number of families dwelling therein ... ...   | 109 |
| (iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ... ...   | 715 |
| (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year   | o   |
| (c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year   | 43  |
| (ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases ...   | 322 |
| (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding.—None.  |     |
| (e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report.—Of the 154 cases of overcrowding found during the survey |     |

of 1936, 45 have now been relieved, 40 of which have been rehoused in Council houses. The Council intend building 30 houses during 1939 to further alleviate the overcrowding in the Borough.

*Action taken with respect to unfit houses under  
Housing Act, 1936.*

---

***The following Clearance Areas were "Represented":—***

- 1—Mill Street, Buglawton (No. 2) Area.
- 2—Dane Row, Buglawton Area.
- 3—Waggs Road (No. 1) Area.
- 4—Stonehouse Green (No. 1) Area.
- 5—Canal Road (No. 1) Area.
- 6—Burslem Street (No. 2) Area.
- 7—Silk Street (No. 2) Area.
- 8—Spring Street (No. 2) Area.
- 9—Lawton Street (No. 1) Area.
- 10—Milk Street (No. 3) Area.
- 11—Astbury Lane Ends (No. 1) Area.

Under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936, 2 dwelling-houses, each forming part of a building were represented, viz.:—

No. 1, Park Street, which forms part of the dwelling-house known as No. 25, Kinsey Street.

No. 1, John Street, which forms part of the dwelling-house known as No. 3, John Street and No. 8, Henrietta Street.

***Clearance Areas were "Declared" as follows:—***

- 1—Loachbrook Area, consisting of 3 dwelling-houses.
- 2—Brook Street (No. 1) Area, consisting of 7 dwelling-houses.
- 3—Mill Street, Buglawton (No. 1) Area, consisting of 7 dwelling-houses.
- 4—Burslem Street (No. 1) Area, consisting of 6 dwelling-houses.
- 5—Mill Street, Buglawton (No. 2) Area, consisting of 4 dwelling-houses.
- 6—Dane Row, Buglawton Area, consisting of 4 dwelling-houses.
- 7—Waggs Road (No. 1) Area, consisting of 4 dwelling-houses.

- 8—Stonehouse Green (No. 1) Area, consisting of 5 dwelling-houses.  
 9—Canal Road (No. 1) Area, consisting of 3 dwelling-houses.  
 10—Burslam Street (No. 2) Area, consisting of 3 dwelling-houses.  
 11—Silk Street (No. 2) Area, consisting of 3 dwelling-houses.

***Clearance Orders were made as follows:—***

- 1—Havannah Street (No. 1) Area, consisting of 2 dwelling-houses.  
 2—Harding's Bank (No. 1) Area, consisting of 4 dwelling-houses.  
 3—Loachbrook Area, consisting of 3 dwelling-houses.  
 4—Brook Street (No. 1) Area, consisting of 7 dwelling-houses.  
 5—Mill Street, Buglawton (No. 1) Area, consisting of 7 dwelling-houses.  
 6—Burslam Street (No. 1) Area, consisting of 6 dwelling-houses.  
 7—Mill Street, Buglawton (No. 2) Area, consisting of 4 dwelling-houses.  
 8—Dane Row, Buglawton Area, consisting of 4 dwelling-houses.  
 9—Waggs Road (No. 1) Area, consisting of 4 dwelling-houses.  
 10—Stonehouse Green (No. 1) Area, consisting of 5 dwelling-houses.  
 11—Canal Road (No. 1) Area, consisting of 3 dwelling-houses.

Undertakings were given to the Ministry of Health to rehouse the inhabitants of the above areas in houses to be erected, viz.:—

Type A2	...	...	...	...	29 houses.
Type A3	...	...	...	..	9 houses.
Type A4	...	...	...	...	6 houses.

***Closing Orders were made as follows:—***

- No. 5, Cosey Corner, Buglawton.  
 No. 1, Park Street.

***The following houses were dealt with under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936:—***

- 21, Park Street, Congleton  
 20, Princess Street, Congleton  
 22 do.  
 24 do.  
 26 do.  
 28 do.  
 30 do.  
 32 do.  
 34 do.  
 36 do.

4,	Roe Street
41,	Spindle Street
43	do.
45	do.
47	do.
49	do.
51	do.
53	do.

Demolition Orders were made as regards Nos. 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, Princess Street and 4, Roe Street.

In the case of No. 21, Park Street, the owner submitted specifications together with an undertaking which were accepted by the Council. The repairs have been carried out in a satisfactory manner.

As regards Nos. 41 to 53, Spindle Street, the owner submitted specifications and an undertaking which were accepted by the Council. The work is now in progress.

(Note.—Re 22, Hardings Bank, Represented 13th December, 1937)  
At the January Meeting of the Health Committee an undertaking not to use the house for human habitation, etc., was submitted by the owner and accepted by the Committee.

#### SECTION E.

##### *Inspection and Supervision of Foods.*

(a) **Milk Supply.**—Farms and dairies are inspected as often as possible by the senior Sanitary Inspector. The methods of producing and distributing milk continue to improve, including the condition of premises. During the year 82 visits were paid to cowsheds and 88 to dairies, 19 informal notices were served with respect to cowsheds and 5 with respect to dairies; all these were complied with. Only 2 licences were issued by the Corporation under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936, both as distributors of Pasteurised Milk.

There are 15 producers of accredited milk in the Borough, 6 of these being retailers.

Thirty-two mixed milk samples were taken from herds of cattle in the Borough; one of these was reported to contain Tuberclle Bacilli; this was notified to the County Medical Officer of Health, and it was later reported to the senior Sanitary Inspector that the cow had been detected and slaughtered.

(b) ***Meat and other Foods.***—These are inspected regularly, and from time to time in slaughterhouses, shops, stalls, etc., by the senior Sanitary Inspector, who is a certified Meat Inspector. During the year 394 visits were paid to slaughterhouses and 384 to other places where food is produced or sold. The total amount of meat destroyed was 3,865 lbs. Ante-mortem inspections are carried out by the Corporation Veterinary Surgeon at the Cattle Market on Market days.

#### ***Carcases Inspected and Condemned.***

	Cattle (including cows)	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Number Inspected ...	356	Unknown	1038	1000
<b><i>All Diseases except Tuberculosis</i></b>				
Whole Carcasses Condemned ...	-	-	1	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was Condemned ...	13	-	2	2
Percentage of number inspected affected with Disease other than Tuberculosis ...	3.6	-	.28	.3
<b><i>Tuberculosis Only</i></b>				
Whole Carcasses Condemned ...	3	-	-	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	16	-	-	26
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	5.3	-	-	2.7

(c) ***Adulteration, etc.***—The Chief Constable acts as Inspector under the Food and Drugs Acts and reports that 46 samples were taken during the year, consisting of 19 of milk and 27 of miscellaneous foods. No legal action was found to be necessary.

During the year an Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries conferred with the Chief Constable on the question of Adulteration of Foods and Drugs and expressed his satisfaction with regard to the administration in the Borough.

(d) ***Chemical Examination of Food.***—Examination of samples taken under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, etc., is carried out in his laboratories in Manchester by Mr. S. E. Melling, who is analyst for both the Borough and the County.

***Bacteriological Examination of Food.***—This is carried out when required at Manchester University Public Health Laboratory, the examinations being principally to ascertain Tubercl Baccili in milk.

(e) ***Nutrition.*** Special attention continued to be paid to the detection of cases of malnutrition and supervision of those already found. 204 children suffering from some degree of malnutrition attended the elementary schools. Every child found to be suffering from malnutrition was placed on the free milk list, except where the parents had satisfactory incomes, in which cases they were asked to allow their children to have school milk or to provide extra milk for them at home. No child is removed from the free milk list unless it is thought that it can be done without fear of relapse.

Half a pint of certified Tuberculin Tested Milk is supplied in sealed bottles to each child on the free milk list in the morning and in the afternoon.

Children attending school, but not suffering from malnutrition can obtain  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint of milk in a sealed bottle on payment of  $\frac{1}{2}d$ .

(f) ***Shell-fish (Molluscan).*** There are no layings within the Borough.

**SECTION F.*****Prevalence of and Control over, Infectious and Other Diseases.***

**Scarlet Fever.**—31 cases were notified, 24 of whom were removed to West Heath Sanatorium and 2 to Macclesfield Isolation Hospital.

**Diphtheria.**—19 cases were notified, all of which were removed to West Heath Sanatorium; one of these was already in the hospital with scarlet fever when diphtheria was contracted.

**Erysipelas.**—6 cases were notified, all of whom were treated at home.

**Cerebro Spinal Meningitis.**—1 case was notified and treated in West Heath Sanatorium, resulting in practically complete recovery.

**Puerperal Pyrexia.**—No cases were notified.

**Ophthalmia Neonatorum.**—3 cases were notified and made satisfactory progress. This disease should now be notified directly to the County Medical Officer.

**Pneumonia and Influenza.**—33 cases of acute primary Pneumonia were notified and 11 cases of acute Influenzal Pneumonia, one of the latter cases being treated at West Heath Sanatorium by special request.

Regarding Influenza a fair number of cases occurred during March and a larger number during April, although nothing in the nature of an epidemic developed. 2 deaths occurred from Influenzal Pneumonia.

**Measles.**—A wide-spread epidemic of this disease prevailed in the Borough during July, August, September and October. There were 506 cases notified, 6 of which were treated at the West Heath Sanatorium. The disease generally was of a mild type and there were no deaths from it.

There were 6 cases of German Measles.

*Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1938.*

Disease.		Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	...	31	20	0
Diphtheria ...	...	19	19	5
Erysipelas ...	...	6	0	1
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	...	1	1	0
Primary Pneumonia ...	...	33	0	6
Influenzal Pneumonia ...	...	11	1	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	3	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	...	0	0	0
Measles ...	...	506	6	0
German Measles ...	...	6	0	0

*Tuberculosis.*

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ...	...	...						
1 ...	...	...						
5 ...	...	...	I					
10 ...	...	...						
15 ...	...	...	I	I	I			
20 ...	...	...	I		I			
25 ...	...	...	I	2	I		2	
35 ...	...	...	I	2		2	I	
45 ...	...	...	2	2		I	2	
55 ...	...	...	2			I	I	
65 and upwards ...	...							
Totals ...	6	9	6	2	4	6	0	I

23 cases (new).

11 deaths.

**Disinfection.**—Of houses and of schools is carried out under the directions of the Sanitary Inspector by means of a formalin spray. When required bedding is removed to the Fever Hospital in a proper zinc lined closed van, and is there disinfected in a Washington-Lyons Steam Apparatus. The van is also disinfected. Schools are disinfected when the Medical Officer of Health thinks this desirable. The bags and dresses of Midwives are disinfected after all cases of Puerperal Pyrexia and Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

All cases of infectious disease were promptly visited by me on notification, and if not removed to hospital were efficiently isolated at home, where necessary the other children were excluded from School and Sunday School, and disinfection was thoroughly carried out.

**Disinfestation.**—No special arrangements are made for disinfestation, except when required in connection with the demolition of houses comprised in clearance areas.

**Artificial Immunization.**—You arranged during 1935 to supply Diphtheria Toxoid-Antitoxin for the inoculation of necessitous children between the ages of one year and fourteen years, free of charge, the parents being responsible for the fees for the actual inoculating. 23 children were inoculated during the year, no severe reactions were experienced and no child refused to have the full three injections.

No local action was taken in regard to the use of Measles serum for prophylaxis or attenuation.

So far as I can ascertain no use was made of either the Schick or the Dick tests in Diphtheria or Scarlet Fever respectively, nor were any vaccinations performed by the Medical Officer of Health.

**Diphtheria Antitoxin.**—Was promptly used when necessary during 1938; a supply is kept by the Medical Officer of Health and is available for the treatment of all the inhabitants of the Borough.

A supply of this is always kept at the Borough Police Station for the emergency use of practitioners.

*Tetanus Antitoxic Serum.*—A small quantity is stocked. This is kept at the War Memorial Hospital.

*Prevention of Blindness.*—No action was taken or required under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925, or under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

No action was taken, or required, under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, nor under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925, nor under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

HENRY P. HARPUR.

May 16th, 1939.

## ***Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.***

### ***I.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.***

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspect- ions	Written Notices	Prosecu- tions
<b>Factories</b> with mechanical power ... ...	252	9	0
<b>Factories</b> without mechanical power ... ...	92	2	0
<b>Other Premises</b> under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises) ... ...	30	0	0
Total ... ...	374	11	0

### ***2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.***

Particulars.	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecu- tions
	Found	Reme- died	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness .. .. ..	1	1		
Overcrowding .. .. ..				
Unreasonable temperature .. .. ..				
Inadequate ventilation .. .. ..				
Ineffective drainage of floors .. .. ..				
Sanitary Conveniences { insufficient .. .. ..	1	1		
	unsuitable or defective .. .. ..	5	5	
	not separate for sexes .. .. ..			
Other offences .. .. ..	4	4		
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937)				
Total .. .. ..	11	11		

### ***OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES***

(Section 108 of Act of 1901; Section III of Act of 1937)

There are no Outworkers of this description in the Borough.

## *Tabular Statement of the Sanitary Inspector*

*For the Year ending December 31st, 1938.*

W. J. EVERSETT.

*Sanitary Inspector,*

\*Inspections made by Borough Police.







